

**CLAIMS**

Please **AMEND** claim 4 as follows.

Please **CANCEL** claims 1-3 and 7-12.

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims is provided below.

1. – 3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 3~~ An apparatus for processing packets comprising:

an inbound memory for receiving data packets;

an outbound memory for transmitting data packets;

circuitry capable of dynamically allocating memory from the inbound memory for use by the outbound memory or from the outbound memory for use by the inbound memory;

a first processor for controlling the inbound memory; and

a second processor for controlling the outbound memory,

wherein the first processor controls the receiving of the data packets and processing of the received data packets.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the outbound memory transmits the processed data packets.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the first and second processors communicate with one another concerning available memory within the inbound and outbound memories, respectively.

7. – 12. (canceled)